Visit of American delegation to Sulabh International, Mumbai

131. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an American Government delegation recently visited the Sulabh International, Mumbai, to assess the magnitude of the sanitation problem in India and the achievements, so far, made to meet the sanitation needs of the country by the Sulabh International and otherwise;

(b) if so, the observations and suggestions made by the American Government delegation, whether any American aid was committed by it for promotion of sanitation facilities; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir. The Sulabh International Social Service Organisation has informed that no American Government delegation visited Sulabh International, Mumbai. However, the White House Fellows visited Sulabh International Social Services Organisation campus at Delhi on 22nd May, 2001.

(b) and (c) The Sulabh International Social Service Organisation has further informed that the visit was under the White House Fellows Programme. The Fellows participated in an education programme. The Sulabh Social Service Organisation International has also informed that the Fellows orally expressed appreciation, in general, of the good and praiseworthy working of the Sulabh. Otherwise, no observations or suggestions were made by them nor any American aid committed.